

THE MANSE • WOODROW WILSON'S BIRTHPLACE
STAUNTON, VIRGINIA

Augusta Co.

HABS NO. 11-9

HABS
VA.

8- STAU

2-

Reduced Copies of Measured Drawings

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

DISTRICT NO. 11

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
PHILIP M. STERN, DISTRICT OFFICER
21 LAW BLDG. FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA

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THE MANSE
Woodrow Wilson's Birthplace
Coalter Street
Staunton, Augusta
County
Virginia

Owner: Mary Baldwin College.

Date of Erection: Between 1845 and 1847.

Architect and Builder: No record.

Present Condition: Good.

Number of Stories: Two.

Materials of Construction: Brick.

Other Existing Records: See text.¹

Additional Data: See following pages.

¹ See also the following reference:
Carson, W.E., Historic Shrines of Virginia, 75.

HISTORICAL DATA

The Manse, birthplace of Woodrow Wilson, 28th President of the United States of America, was built between the years 1845, when the lot was bought, and 1847. It was built by the Presbyterian Church as a Manse and John Fifer, father of Governor Joseph Wilson Fifer, of Illinois, was the builder.

Reverend Joseph R. Wilson became pastor of the first Presbyterian Church in Staunton in 1855 and lived at the Manse until 1857 when he resigned. On December 28, 1856 Thomas Woodrow Wilson was born in the southeast room on the first floor.

The Manse remained practically as it was built until 1897. The architects for the changes made at this time were T. J. Collins & Son, Staunton, who have a complete record of same. The old shingled roof was removed at this time and the exterior brick walls painted.

The property is now owned by the Mary Baldwin College.

References: Samuel J. Collins. Brochure of the Temporary Custodian Committee of the Manse. A. M. Fraser in Homes and Gardens in Old Virginia, p.p. 263-267.

Reviewed 1936, H. C. F.

Philip R. Stern

ADDENDUM TO:
MANSE
(Woodrow Wilson Birthplace)
Frederick & Coalter Streets
Staunton
Virginia

HABS VA-11-9
VA,8-STAU,2-

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National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
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